



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 07553.0024-01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Kazushi TAHARA et al.) Group Art Unit: 2661
)
Application No.: 10/648,341) Examiner: Not yet assigned
)
Filed: August 27, 2003)
)
For: PART MAINTENANCE SYSTEM)
AND PART MAINTENANCE)
METHOD OF SEMICONDUCTOR)
PROCESSING SYSTEM)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached Form PTO 1449.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed

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documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

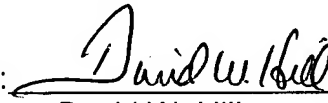
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: December 1, 2003

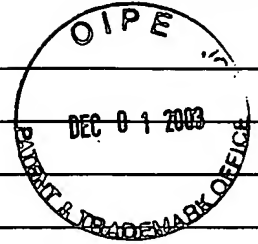
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

OMB No. 0651-0011



Atty. Docket No.	07553.0024-01	Appln. No.	10/648,341
Applicant	Kazushi TAHARA et al.		
Filing Date	August 27, 2003	Group:	2661

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*	Document Number	Issue Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
	4,404,641	9/1983	Bazarnik			
	5,124,908	6/1992	Broadbent			
	5,231,594	7/1993	Knibiehler et al.			
	5,329,465	7/1994	Arcella et al.			
	5,828,567	10/1998	Eryurek et al.			
	6,006,171	12/1999	Vines et al.			
	6,219,367	4/2001	Atsumi			
	2001/0032109A1	10/2001	Gonyea et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Document Number	Publication Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
JP 03-008407	1/1991	Japan			Yes - Abstract
JP 2000-012412	1/2000	Japan			Yes

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Examiner	Date Considered
<p>*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</p>	
Form PTO 1449	Patent and Trademark Office - U.S. Department of Commerce